



CITY OF BAINBRIDGE ISLAND

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MEDIA CONTACTS

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Safety Improvements Approved for Fort Ward Hill Road

Bainbridge Island, Wash., (June, 2014) – On June 23, the Bainbridge Island City Council approved actions to address safety concerns on Fort Ward Hill Road. The actions to be taken are extending the existing guard rail and imposing traffic restrictions on Fort Ward Hill Road from NE Watch Hill Drive to NE South Beach Drive. The traffic restrictions will require flaggers for any vehicle over 40-feet in length. The City of Bainbridge Island Public Works Department expects the guard rail to be installed in the next couple of months after the design and contracting phases are completed. The signage restricting truck size and requiring flaggers should be up within two weeks.

These changes come after several Fort Ward Hill residents addressed the City Council at the June 9, 2014 Business meeting. Residents were concerned that semi-trucks travelling Fort Ward Hill Road were creating dangerous situations for opposing traffic due to the sharp turns on the roadway that make it difficult for the trucks to remain in their lane. Resident Kathy Hansen presented a PowerPoint presentation to illustrate the issue. During the “unfinished business” portion of the meeting, City Council unanimously voted to direct staff to come back within two weeks with options to correct the noted traffic safety issues on Fort Ward Hill Road, as it transitions down to South Beach Drive. At the meeting this past Monday, June 23, City Council again voted unanimously to approve the safety improvements recommended by the City Public Works Department.

Questions about the Fort Ward Hill Road safety improvements and new traffic restrictions can be sent to Barry Loveless, Public Works Director at bloveless@bainbridgewa.gov or by calling 206.842.2016.

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